14th August 1956]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) to (d) Particulars are furnished in the paper [a] placed on the table of the House.

Iron and steel

* 100-H Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the basis on which the quota of iron and steel is allotted for this State for public consumption and for Government use; and

(b) whether the Government have made any representation to the Union Government for increasing the quota?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) The allotment of iron and steel for public consumption is made by the iron and Steel Controller, Calcutta, on the basis of population with special weightage for urban population on the basis of 1951 census.

The allotment for Government use is based on the demands of the several Government and quasi-Government departments in the State.

(b) No, Sir.

* 100-I Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the quota of iron and steel allotted for distribution to agriculturists and on what basis the quota is fixed; and

(b) the procedure laid down for the distribution of the above for agricultural purposes?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) There is no definite quota fixed for iron and steel for distribution to agriculturists. With reference to the demand of the State Government and the supplies available, the Government of India (Ministry of Food and Agriculture) will intimate to this State every quarter the allocation of iron and steel made to this State for agricultural purposes. With reference to the allocations made by the Government of India and based on the genuineness of the demands of the agriculturists, allotment of iron and steel materials is made to the ryots for agricultural purposes and no particular quota is fixed rigidly for any individual ryot.

(b) The iron and steel materials are supplied to ryots by the registered stock-holders on applications duly recommended by the Local Government officials such as Village Officers, Revenue Inspectors, Agricultural Demonstrators, Tahsildars, Rural Welfare Officers, Project Executive Officers and Assistant Project Executive Officers and also on permits issued by the Director of Industries and Commerce where the demands exceed 2 tons. The iron and steel materials are also supplied to the agricultural fabricators for manufacturing agricultural implements required for day-to-day agricultural purposes.

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 674 infra.